

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00911 011210Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 ACDA-12 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/109 W
-----073756 011941Z /40

R 011100Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6681
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL KHARTOUM 0911

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PCAT, MASS, SU, CH
SUBJECT: CHINESE AMBASSADOR SAYS CHINA READY TO SEND ARMS TO SUDAN

1. PRC AMBASSADOR HERE STATED FEBRUARY 28 THAT CHINA PREPARED TO OFFER MILITARY WEAPONS TO SUDAN IF IT IS EXPOSED TO ANY AGGRESSION. ACCORDING NEWSPAPER SAHAFA, CHINESE AMBASSADOR SAID BASIS OF FRIENDLY AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN SUDAN AND CHINA IS STRUGGLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, NATIONAL UNITY AND PROGRESS AS WELL AS STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM. NO DETAILS ABOUT WHAT MAY BE PROVIDED APPEARED IN SAHAFA ARTICLE.

2. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT HAS NOT YET APPEARED IN OTHER MEDIA. RECENTLY HE REMARKED TO ME APROPOS OF C-130 SALE THAT CHINA GIVES WEAPONS AS GIFT, NOT THROUGH SALES, AND USA AS RICHER COUNTRY THAN CHINA OUGHT TO GIVE WEAPONS AWAY TO FRIENDS. CHINA DELIVERED 10,000 SMALL ARMS

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TO SUDAN LAST DECEMBER AS GIFT. SINCE DEPARTURE OF CHINESE ARMOR MAINTENANCE TEAM, ONLY CHINESE MILITARY PRESENCE IN SUDAN IS TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM HERE TO SUPPORT SUDAN'S CHINESE F-5'S (MIG-17'S). WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT PRC WILL ASSIST SUDANESE BORDER PATROL.

3. COMMENT: CHINESE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS TO ME,
MAY BE SIGNIFICANT SINCE HE ALMOST NEVER TALKS WITH
ANYONE FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY. CHINESE ACTIONS HERE
PRESUMABLY ARE RELATED TO WHAT WE ASSUME IS THEIR GROWING
CONCERN OVER SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN NEIGHBORING ETHIOPIA.
BERGUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decapton Note:
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